

ABSTRACT OF THE INVENTION

A method is provided for controlling the operation of the alternator in such a way that during certain conditions, such as rapid acceleration of a marine vessel in combination with a trimming maneuver, the alternator of the marine propulsion system is deactivated so that it does not provide a mechanical load on the engine during the accelerating maneuvers. This allows the engine to provide more power to the propeller and achieve the desired operating speed commanded by the operator of a marine vessel.